

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on April 7, A.D. 2016 at 7:00 o'clock PM in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III; Paul J. Golembeske and Robert L. Mushen. Absent: Gary S. Mataronas. Also present: Police Chief A. Marion, Tom Dunn, Business Manager and Richard S. Humphrey, Town Solicitor (arrived at 7:05 PM).

Pledge to the Flag.

Council President Mushen opened a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining the views of citizens on community development and housing needs and on program performance as noticed below:

NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF LITTLE COMPTON

The Town of Little Compton is considering the filing of an application for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant. Statewide, \$4,725,348 is available to undertake a range of activities including:

a) Improved housing opportunities for low and moderate-income families and individuals.

b) Provisions of employment opportunities for low and moderate-income individuals.

c) Provision of community facilities and services principally benefiting low and moderate-income families and individuals.

Sam Shuford of Church Community Housing reminded those in attendance that the Town has participated in the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program for many years and secured funds for a variety of activities. He reviewed the list of letters of intent submitted for the Town to consider including in their application:

- Town of Little Compton – funding for a hoist for the Town Crane**
- Cornerstone Adult Services, Inc. funding towards the Nancy Brayton Osborn Adult Day Health Center**
- Operation Stand Down RI – funding for Employment & Training Case Manager, Housing Case Manager**
- EastBay Community Action Program – funding for CNA training**
- Women's Resource Center – funding towards programs for domestic violence and replacement windows**
- Lucy's Hearth – funding towards general operation expenses**
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County – funding for capital needs**
- Church Community Housing Corporation – funding for Operating Costs and Housing Development**

Councilor Mushen inquired as to whether or not the activities presented would be listed by a host community or individually as handled in previous years. Mr. Shuford stated that he thought the

State would continue to have a policy of assigning to a host community if funding was granted, but the listing of the activities may likely be listed in individual community applications.

Susan Schenck representing East Bay Community Action Program noted that they would be seeking \$2,500 from each community in Newport County to support the School Alliance Program to train 15 individuals in the CNA field.

David McCurdy, Development Director of the Women's Resource Center will be seeking inclusion in the Town's application for program services.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): Receiving no further comments the public hearing to gather public input relating to the consideration of filing an application for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant was closed.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To approve, as written the Town Council meeting minutes for March 31, 2016.

Announcement:

A-1 Roofing and Construction of Newport RI announced that nominations are now open for Free Roof Giveaways in Southern Rhode Island. A-1 has teamed up with national No Roof Left Behind to provide free roofs to local residents selected by the community at large. They have asked the Council to spread the news about this giveaway to a deserving community family in need. The Director of Social Services will be provided with a copy of this announcement for her review.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To place on file the Maintenance Department Head Report for March 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To place on file the Police Department Head Report for March 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To place on file the Building Official's Department Head Reports for February and March 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by

Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To grant permission to the LC Community Center to use 32 Commons during the week of Spring Break, on April 18th, 20th and 22nd to serve the Senior Luncheon due to refinishing of the floors at the Community Center, contingent upon no conflicts with previously scheduled reservations to use the building by other community groups.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To allow Stay At Home, Inc. to use the Senior Transportation Van for a day trip to Foxwoods Resort at a date to be determined.

Discussion ensued concerning House Bill H7985 – an Act relating to towns and cities – low and moderate income housing. This proposed legislation would result in a fine being levied against any town or city who does not meet their 10% goal of low and moderate housing at a rate of \$2,000 per unit not achieved, or in lieu of the fine the town or city may purchase units from other towns or cities who may have excess low and moderate housing units at a rate to be no less than \$1,000 per unit. Little Compton has nine (9) eligible units out of approximately 150 units necessary. The resulting fine could be approximately \$282,000 penalty per year. During the discussion a feeling was expressed for specific data rather than estimates and to seek an exemption from the legislation due to our unique

circumstances of our town.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To authorize the Council President to oppose the passage of House Bill H7985 regarding low and moderate income housing requirements through a letter to be delivered to members of the General Assembly, and to further allow the Town Solicitor to contact the Speaker of the House's Office to discuss the Town's concerns.

Communications #1 and #2:

- 1. Communication from Peter & Katie Dolan concerning a family wedding scheduled for August 20, 2016 at their home in Chace Point, 60 Beach Dr.**
- 2. Letter from John Barylick concerning his wedding planned for July 16, 2016 at his home in Chace Point, 86 Butts Rock Rd.**

Both residents are concerned over the newly adopted noise ordinances and have sought guidance concerning the new 9 pm limitation on music. Representatives of both residents mentioned they contracted for bands prior to the enactment of the ordinance changing the late hour from 11 pm to 9 pm. It was noted that it was not the Council's intent to hinder residents family gatherings and it was suggested that the residents speak with their neighbors prior to the events. No waiver allowance is found in the noise ordinance

therefore the residents will need to work this out with their neighbors and hope the level of their music is not such that it offends the neighbors. No votes were taken.

Jana Porter request the Town Council adopt a resolution supporting House Bill 7243 and its sister Senate Bill not yet numbered that states no person shall have in his or her possession any firearm or other weapons on school grounds except those individuals exempt under RI General Law. Ms. Porter is a member of the RI Coalition Against Gun Violence. She further noted that the School Committee adopted a resolution supporting this legislation at its meeting last evening.

Councilors Golembeske, Bodington and Appleton all expressed their desire not to support this bill.

Jeremy Allen stated that although he holds a permit to carry a concealed weapon he would not feel trained sufficiently to protect children within the school should an event occur. He would rather police officers protect the children.

Peter Fossell, a retired combat officer feels hand guns are dangerous and that mistakes made can cause others harm. He supports the legislation to prevent guns in schools.

Police Chief Marion is in support of the legislative proposal that no guns be allowed on school grounds except by those authorized under

RI General Law.

John Osborne stated that he is against the bill and feels it is an attack on the 2nd amendment to the US Constitution.

After a brief discussion the following motion failed:

Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Bodington, Appleton), voting against (Golembeske, Mushen) Motion fails: To place on file a request for the Council to support House Bill 7243.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske), voting against (Mushen): To oppose House Bill 7243 – an Act relating to criminal offenses – weapons, restricting possession of firearms or other weapons on school grounds.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To adopt the following resolution:

FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That it be known to all persons of the Town of Little Compton that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of

housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provisions of brokerage services because of race, color, religion or national origin is prohibited by Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act (Federal Fair Housing Laws). It is the policy of the Town of Little Compton to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, and be it further

RESOLVED: That within available resources the Town of Little Compton will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the Rhode Island Civil Commission Regional Office Compliance Division, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Town of Little Compton shall publicize this Resolution and through this publicity shall cause owners of real estate, developers and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and any applicable state or local laws or ordinances, and be it further

RESOLVED: That said program will at a minimum include, but not be limited to:

(1) The publicizing of this policy and other applicable fair housing information.

(2) Distribution of posters, flyers and any other means which will bring to the attention of those affected, the knowledge of their respective responsibilities and rights concerning equal opportunity in housing, and

(3) Information for this program shall be provided by; the Community Housing Resource Board/Housing Hot Line.

By order of the Town Council the month of April in the year 2016 is hereby proclaimed as Fair Housing Month in the Town of Little Compton, Rhode Island.

Robert L. Mushen

President, Town Council

Communications #5 – a public notice from Coastal Resources Management Council of an application under consideration from Christopher & Anne Sargent for property located at 66 Sakonnet Point Road, Plat 12 Lot 9. Steven & Sharon Linder asked to be heard on this notice. Mr. Linder noted that as an abutter he is concerned with the application. His concerns include floodplain and wetlands issues.

This property abuts Long Pond which has been undergoing habitat recovery and wetland development through a grant awarded to The Group to Save Long Pond established by the abutters of Long Pond. He is concerned that the property in question is too encumbered by

wetlands and the flood zone to support the proposed activity. Mr. & Mrs. Linder asked for the Council to write CRMC to explain the work of The Group to Save Long Pond as ask how it aligns with the proposed application of the Sargent's.

Michael Steers feels the higher water level is a result of Hurricane Sandy and supports the request of the Linders.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To authorize the Council President to write Coastal Resources Management Council to ask how the application of Christopher & Anne Sargent aligns with the restoration project on Long Pond by The Group to Save Long Pond.

Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To table until the April 21, 2016 Council meeting consideration of a resolution adopted by the Burrillville Town Council concerning legislation to restore funding for state aid to Libraries to the full 25% in order to allow the Council to seek further information from the Brownell Library.

Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To grant a Victualling, Peddler and Holiday

Sales License to Scott Naso of Hawaiian Jim's Shaved Ice to sell at South Shore Beach during the summer, contingent upon Beach Commission approval.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: \$17,246.13

RI Town & City Clerks Assoc. - Town Clerk \$60.00

Edith Marion - Zoning - Building Official \$266.00

WB Mason - Town Hall - Town Clerk - Treasurer \$179.07

Richard S Humphrey - Town Solicitor \$4,083.34

Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$23.10

Freedom Restoration & Cleaning - Fire Dept. \$1,752.00 \$1,775.10

Batteries & Bulbs - Ambulance Reimb. Fund \$26.43

Batteries & Bulbs - Ambulance Reimb. Fund \$39.95

Northeast Rescue Systems Inc. - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$248.00

Henry's Tire Service - Ambulance Reimb. Fund \$120.00 \$434.38

National Fire Codes - Fire Alarm Acct. \$1,305.00 \$1,305.00

PostMaster - Assessors \$196.00

Griggs & Browne - Public Safety Complex \$75.00

Belmont Springs - Police Dept. \$39.41

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - Town Hall \$112.95

Rob's Auto Care Inc - Senior Busing \$55.00

Direct Energy - Street Lights \$10.06

Direct Energy - Street Lights Town Dock \$10.64
Petro - Gasoline \$1,700.19
Cox Communications - Town Hall Depts. \$281.94
Nationalgrid - Public Safety Complex \$536.32
Nationalgrid - Transfer Station \$110.74
William L Moore - Highway \$105.00
Andrew J Morgan - Snow Removal \$268.14
ASM Stonescapes - Snow Removal \$660.00
Valcourt Heating - 30 Commons \$90.00
RM Construction - Transfer Station \$316.00
William L Moore - Inspections \$990.00
Helger Bros Construction - Highway \$912.00
Kevin's Auto Parts - Maintenance \$23.62
Humphreys - Transfer Station \$9.18
Seekonk Supply - Highway \$218.50
Sakonnet Plumbing & Heating - Maintenance \$1,252.55
Dave Venancio - Inspections \$1,170.00

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To adjourn at 8:22 PM.

Carol A Wordell, Town Clerk